

CHARLIE BAKER
Governor



KARYN POLITO
Lt. Governor

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Governor Baker Nominates Damian N. Riddle of Lunenburg as Clerk Magistrate of the Ayer District Court

BOSTON — Today, Governor Charlie Baker announced the nomination of Attorney Damian N. Riddle of Lunenburg as Clerk Magistrate of the Ayer District Court. Attorney Riddle has nearly 20 years of legal experience in the public and private sectors.

“Attorney Riddle’s decades of courtroom experience give me confidence that he will be an effective Clerk Magistrate,” **said Governor Charlie Baker**. “I am pleased to submit this qualified candidate to the Governor’s Council for their advice and consent.”

“The many cases Attorney Riddle has tried in criminal and civil court have prepared him well to serve as a Clerk Magistrate,” **said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito**. “I am confident that, if confirmed, he will serve both the courts and the Commonwealth.”

The District Court hears a wide range of criminal, civil, housing, juvenile, mental health, and other types of cases. District Court criminal jurisdiction extends to all felonies punishable by a sentence up to five years, and many other specific felonies with greater potential penalties; all misdemeanors; and all violations of city and town ordinances and by-laws. The District Court is located in 62 courts across the Commonwealth.

For more information about the District Court, visit their [homepage](#).

Judicial nominations are subject to the advice and consent of the Governor’s Council. Applicants for judicial openings are reviewed by the Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) and recommended to the governor. Governor Baker established the JNC in February 2015 pursuant to Executive Order 558, a non-partisan, non-political Commission composed of volunteers from a cross-section of the

Commonwealth's diverse population to screen judicial applications. Twenty-one members were later appointed to the JNC in April 2015.

About Damian N. Riddle:

Attorney Damian N. Riddle began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in the Essex County District Attorney's Office from 2000 until 2001, after working for more than 4 years as a paralegal for Riddle & Associates in Lunenburg. He then returned to Riddle & Associates, where he concentrated on criminal law, civil litigation and probate and family law, representing defendants in the District and Superior Courts. After 14 years as an Associate, Riddle assumed ownership of Riddle & Associates in 2015, and has since moved the firm to Fitchburg. He also served as an attorney for the Bar Advocates of Worcester County from 2002 until 2019, and as a member of the Lunenburg Zoning Board of Appeals from 2001 until 2003. Riddle earned his Juris Doctorate from Massachusetts School of Law in 2000, and his Bachelor's Degree from Western Colorado University in 1996.

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